NO STORM BREWING IN BUSINESS SKY

U. S. Chamber of Commerce Committee Finds Conditions Highly Favorable.

CROP REPORTS GOOD

Wheat Slightly Below Average, but Corn May Run Almost Normal.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—With the buying mostly for the needs and apparently little speculation, there appears to be an entire absence of any concern as to the effect upon business either of the Presidential election, the possible coming of peace in Europe or any other factor of possible disturbance.

This is the opinion expressed by the committee on statistics and standards of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, of which A. W. Douglas of St. Louis is the chairman. According to this authority, campaign year need not be regarded with apprehension by the industrial and commercial interests of the country.

The total yield of winter wheat will be approximately between 465,000,000 and 475,000,000 bushels. The quality is excellent. As a whole harvesting was done under generally favorable weather conditions. It seems probable, the Chamber of Commerce experts declare, that the total wheat crop for 1916 will be approximately 30 per cent. less than the yield in 1915 and slightly under the average for the last ten years. However, the committee points out that the 1915 yield was a record production.

Production of Corn.

An estimate of the final production of corn is largely approximate at best, owing to the varied weather conditions, but it does not seem likely at this time, the committee reports, that it can be less than 2,700,000,000 bushels, and it may run as high as 2,850,000,000, or approximately the average yield for the last ten years.

Oats, barley, flax and rye all show the spotted conditions prevalent in this year's crops. On the whole, however, they promise more than the average yields. Flax, it is predicted, will exceed the yield of last year. Rice is generally good in California, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana. Potatoes promise a normal crop, with the sweet variety making excellent progress.

Truck garden crops as a rule have been very good in a majority of sections. The prospects for tobacco are excellent in at least six States, but in some, North and South Carolina and Virginia, the crop has been hurt by the storms. Hay in general is a good crop throughout the country, with the usual local exceptions.

The outlook for the so-called secondary crops—peanuts, rice, sugar cane and beans—is said to be very good. The yield of vegetables this spring has been quite large, especially the tomato crop. The outlook for hops is generally favorable.

Cotton Crop Outlook.

The cotton crop has received its full share of vicissitudes of weather, the committee reports, and has suffered accordingly, notwithstanding an acreage which is approximately 12 per cent. greater than last year. There is a large increase in acreage in the Imperial Valley in California, where cotton is said to be cultivated with much success. The long staple variety is being successfully grown in some of the irrigated districts of Arizona.

It is predicted apples will be more abundant than the average crop, though deficient in some sections. Grapes are doing well in New York and California, and there have been good shipments of peaches from many points, although the crop was injured in others by the cold. Citrus fruits in California in general are reported in fine condition, but are from fair to poor in Florida, according to the commission reports.

Shipments are running heavily on cantaloupes and watermelons. The commercial value of these fruits is illustrated by the statement that the southeastern counties of Missouri expect this season to ship about 5,500 carloads of watermelons, which are expected to yield to the producers approximately $4,000,000.

The story of cattle, according to the National Chamber of Comerce, is generally of high prices and satisfactory conditions in most States, though the ranges in the Southwest, West and Northwest need rain. Equally satisfactory is the report on sheep and wool, especially because of the prevailing high prices of wool. Hogs are steadily increasing because of plentiful food and the successful campaign of sanitation waged against hog cholera by the Department of Agriculture and the various State universities.

Growth of Industries.

Everywhere the dairy industry is growing. The same is true with regard to poultry. Mules and horses are in demand, and at high prices. Manufactures are practically everywhere in excellent condition, with factories full of orders, the committee reports, labor fully employed and the products commanding high prices. The only exceptions are where strikes prevail.

The lumber industry varies from poor to good in different sections, according to various local conditions. On the Pacific slope complaint is made of lack of export market and of shipping facilities, while in the southwestern portions of the country the story is the lack of orders in some cases and in others the lack of cars to move the products. As a whole, the industry is in better shape than for many years.

Oil and gas are distinctly in good condition despite recent declines in the price of crude oil. Naval stores, turpentine and resin are suffering from lack of demand because of the European war. This is likewise true of the phosphate mines of Florida.

Stone and marble quarries of all descriptions are very busy. This is not true of slate, which is generally dull. Mining of all kinds in general is in excellent shape. The principal exceptions to this are coal mines, suffering here and there from strikes or lack of demand.

In southwestern Missouri and the neighboring sections of Arkansas, zinc and lead mines are feeling the result of the recent drop in the price of these metals. Fisheries in general are good in New England, moderate further south along the Virginia and Carolina coast, and only fair in the Pacific slope.

The building industry is reported to be in generally excellent shape. It is, in the opinion of the committee, the best barometer of general business, since building in the country districts means the extensive use of materials in almost every line of commercial business. Despite the high prices of material, the committee report concludes, the building outlook continues good.

Rock Slide Kills Man.

HIGHLAND FALLS, N. Y., Aug. 13.—A rock slide in the forest of the Dean Iron Ore mines near here to-day killed one man and probably fatally injured two others. The rock under which the men were pinioned had to be blasted before they could be extricated.

FAVORS BUSINESS POOLING INTERESTS

Committee of National Foreign Trade Council Reports for the Webb Bill.

EUROPE HAS ADVANTAGE

American Manufacturers After War Will Be Undersold by Competitors.

Necessity of permitting American exporters to pool their interests in seeking foreign trade—such cooperation being forbidden now by the Sherman anti-trust law—was emphasized yesterday in the report of the committee on cooperation in foreign trade of the National Foreign Trade Council.

The committee has been investigating the manner in which foreign Governments back manufacturers and exporters of their respective countries seeking foreign trade. It also has gone thoroughly into the effect of the war on American exports and has studied the way in which American exporters have sought to seize the present big business opportunities.

It is pointed out that while America has enjoyed a tremendous foreign trade since the outbreak of the war, two important facts should be understood by the American public. First, that our foreign trade could have been developed to a much higher degree in the last two years had it not been for the law forbidding such cooperation of exporters as is permitted and encouraged by foreign Governments. Secondly, the committee asserts that with the coming of peace much of our foreign trade will be lost unless some such legislation as presented in the Webb bill is enacted.

Report of the Committee.

The report of the committee analyzes the "fortuitous elements in the present foreign commerce," and says in part:

"In 1913 the per capita foreign trade of England was $149, of Germany $79, and of the United States only $44. For 1916 it is estimated that that of the United States will be $63, or $58 without ammunition and firearms. This excess of export trade over the normal rests largely upon abnormal war demand, elimination of normal European competition, loss of labor through enlistment or conscription and curtailment of investment of European capital in neutral markets.

"These abnormal conditions having prevailed in the export trade for nearly two years, many Americans are in danger of relying upon them as permanent. Continuation of the present condition spells European industrial and Governmental cooperation versus American compelled competition."

Principle of the Bill Indorsed.

The principle of the pending Webb bill authorizing cooperation by exporters, with adequate safeguards against restriction of domestic commerce, is strongly indorsed by the council committee, consisting of: Chairman, John D. Ryan, president Anaconda Copper Mining Company; J. A. G. Carson, president Carson Naval Stores Company, Savannah, Ga.; James A. Farrell, president United States Steel Corporation; H. C. Lewis, manager National Paper and Type Company; William H. Russe, president Russe & Burgess, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.; Theodore B. Wilcox, Portland Flouring Mills Company, Portland, Ore.; Robert H. Patchin, secretary National Foreign Trade Council.

The committee says the Webb bill promises freedom to American export trade, greater opportunity to small manufacturers and stimulus to the entire American commercial and industrial life. It points out that foreign leagues have been able by their cooperation to buy American goods at less prices than domestic buyers and asserts the Webb bill would prevent this.

"GAYETY" AT A GARDEN PARTY

Woman Hit by Bottle, Man Stabbed, Another Is in Jail.

A garden party with twenty participants was in progress yesterday at 205 Freeman street, Greenpoint, when the wife of Alexander Sorice, the host, was hit on the head with a large soda water bottle thrown from an adjoining yard. When she fell, bleeding, her husband leaped over a fence and caught Adam Lesker of 183 Eagle street. During a struggle between the two men Lesker was stabbed in the abdomen, chest and face.

A policeman, attracted by the tumult, arrested Sorice, and Lesker was taken in a critical condition to the Greenpoint Hospital. Sorice was remanded in the Bedford Avenue Police Court in $1,000 bail for felonious assault by Magistrate Naumer.

BOY HURT IN STOLEN LIFT RIDE

Wedged Between Floor and Shaft in Locked Loft Building.

A stolen ride in an elevator of the twelve story loft building at 424-438 West Thirty-eighth street yesterday afternoon resulted in serious injury to Charles Sherwood, 15, of 453 Ninth avenue. He was wedged between the floor of the car and the door of the shaft at the top floor when watchmen, attracted by his screams, came to his rescue. He was taken to New York Hospital.

How the boy got into the building, which was closed, is not known. Apparently he started the elevator from the ground floor and tried to leap out when it reached the top.

BANKS TO AID NEW SCHOOL.

Business Men Also to Cooperate in Columbia Enterprise.

The new school of business at Columbia University will have the active cooperation of many banks and business institutions, according to Prof. Edwin R. A. Seligman, head of the department of political economy. The school is designed to turn out specialized salesmen.

New York University announces a course in foreign trade in its school of commerce, accounts and finance to train young men to grasp the opportunities presented by the expansion of America's foreign trade.

PREACHES ON KISSING.

Scotch Minister Also Criticises American Lack of Enjoyment.

The Rev. John McNeill of Aberdeen, Scotland, preached yesterday in the Central Presbyterian Church, Madison avenue and Fifty-seventh street, largely on the subject of kissing, but he digressed long enough to say that Americans do not know how to enjoy themselves.

"When you have a little leisure, what do you do? You go to Saratoga, where you learn nothing and do nothing," he said.

Searchlight Rays Branched.

For vessels using the Suez Canal there has been developed a searchlight throwing branched rays of light to prevent blinding the pilots of vessels coming from the opposite direction.

STATE TAX WILL BE LOWER.

Increase of $325,000,000 in Assessed Value of Real Property.

ALBANY, Aug. 13.—An increase of $325,000,000 in the assessed value of real property in New York State for the year 1916 is indicated in reports made to the State Tax Department. The result, State tax officials assert, will be a lower tax rate in nearly every community.

Collections by the corporation tax bureau, which was transferred from the Comptroller's Department to the Tax Department early in the administration of Gov. Whitman, will approximate $12,250,000. The bureau yielded $11,634,000 in 1914 and $11,235,000 in 1915. The value of special franchise property for the present year will show approximately an increase of $55,000,000 over 1915.

DROWNS FLEEING ASYLUM.

Ward's Island Patient Caught in the Swirls of Hell Gate.

In an attempt to escape from Ward's Island yesterday by swimming through Hell Gate, William Kaplowitz, 22, an inmate of the insane asylum on the island, was drowned.

Attendants discovered his flight and were running toward the southern end of the island to put off after him in a small boat when they saw him throw up his hands and sink. The body has not been recovered.

JERSEY TROLLEY FIGHT IS ON.

Verona and Montclair Go to Court After an Arrest.

VERONA, N. J., Aug. 13.—The fight between the trolley commuters of this place and Montclair and the Public Service Corporation has reached the courts. C. W. S. Curley, who refused to accept his identification card in the one fare zone or to pay a second fare, was arrested yesterday and arraigned before Magistrate Henry Yost on a charge of disorderly conduct. There will be a hearing on Wednesday.

Curley took the stand that the cards are an annoyance, and that it is not the duty of the passengers to assist the company in its identification of passengers who ride from one zone to another. When the car he was riding on was run into the barns he refused to get off. Many passengers did the same and accompanied him to court.

Atlanta Man Found Dead.

Ernest H. Huff of 5 Whitehall street, Atlanta, Ga., was found dead yesterday in a room at the Hotel Grenoble, Seventh avenue and Fifty-sixth street. Heart disease was the cause. Mr. Huff was a buyer and was 28 years old.

Rod and Gun News

HIGH WATER FOR LOCAL ANGLERS FROM AUGUST 14 TO AUGUST 20.

Date.	Sandy Hook (The Horseshoe) A.M.	P.M.	Princess Bay A.M.	P.M.	Jamaica Bay (Canarsie) A.M.	P.M.	Governors Island A.M.	P.M.	Willets Point A.M.	P.M.	New London A.M.	P.M.
August 14	8:06	8:22	8:10	8:27	8:50	9:07	8:41	8:58	11:47	....	9:34	9:56
August 15	8:54	9:14	8:59	9:19	9:32	9:59	9:31	9:47	12:07	12:36	10:23	10:45
August 16	9:42	10:01	9:47	10:06	10:27	10:46	10:20	10:36	12:58	1:24	11:11	11:37
August 17	10:29	10:48	10:34	10:53	11:14	11:33	11:10	11:27	1:50	2:13	12:03	....
August 18	11:17	11:37	11:22	11:42	12:02	12:22	12:00	....	2:42	3:04	12:28	12:55
August 19	12:07	....	12:12	....	12:52	....	12:18	12:51	3:41	4:01	1:21	1:52
August 20	12:29	12:59	12:34	1:04	1:14	1:44	1:12	1:45	4:45	5:05	2:24	2:53

Hints on Muskie Fishing.

In angling for maskinonge keep your rod straight out behind the boat; if you hold it out over the side you put a strain on it that is unnecessary and bad medicine for any rod.

In casting for the muskie keep the boat about fifty feet off the casting waters, moving the boat as noiselessly as possible and casting in toward the shore or feeding grounds.

An all white or white and red head artificial minnow, or spoon and pork rind, frog or minnow makes a good casting lure.

From the strike the fight is fast and gamey, and you sure must keep the slack out of the line or he'll do a flop out of the water and corkscrew back on your line, which means farewell to the muskie.

DIXIE CARROLL.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 13.

Shore Bird Shooting This Week.

Shore bird shooting begins in New York, New Jersey and other adjoining States, according to the Federal statutes, on August 16.

The species that may be killed on that date include black breasted and golden plover and greater and lesser yellowlegs. The jacksnipe season opens a month later, and the woodcock season begins October 1.

Grover Cleveland, who was a noted duck hunter, also indulged in shore bird shooting. He once remarked that he had never indulged in any shooting "so conducive to the stimulation and strenghtening of the incomparable virtue of patience" as in this sport. He has often sat in a blind for five hours—and awake nearly all the time at that—without seeing or hearing a bird worth shooting.

Many elements enter into the uncertainties of shore bird shooting; the direction of the wind and other weather conditions have much to do with keeping the birds out of range or even out of sight of land. The sportsman puts all his knowledge, ability and skill at a time when conditions look right and he comes back with an empty bag. He may vow he has had enough. Wait a day or two and that same man will be looking at weaher signs as to the possibilities of going again. Probably the answer is that shore bird shooting has a fascination of its own.

Practically all the States of the United States now have hunting license laws upon their statute books. In New York the non-resident pays $20.50; the non-resident taxpayer $10.50, and the resident $1.10. In New Jersey the non-resident license fee is $10.15 and the resident $1.15.

Weakfish on 24 Cotton Thread.

As far as delicacy in handling fish is concerned, the capture of game fish on No. 100 cotton (testing one pound three ounces dry) is a supreme test. The results achieved with this line tend to show the advance in cotton thread fishing perhaps more than the results on No. 24. The following are the heaviest weakfish entered in the records of the Cotton Thread Fishing Club of America, Inc.:

Year.	Weakfish.
1913	None.
1914	3 lbs. 2 ozs.
1915	2 lbs. 9 ozs.
1916	3 lbs. 14½ ozs.

The net results of three years of cotton thread fishing by the members of the club have been: a pride in rods whiplike, but full of life, and reels smooth and watchlike in their accuracy or adjustment; a skill in handling fish which might never have been acquired with heavier lines, and a preference for a record of a larger proportion of hooked fish saved rather than for one of mere quantity of fish.

This seems to be a long step in the direction of following the precepts laid down by Izaak Walton in his "Compleat Angler."

New York, Aug. 13. AUGUST ROTH.

Popular Game Warden Yarns.

Mr. Stoddart's article on fish stories that have stood the test of time interested me. Here are two game warden yarns that always bring a chuckle to the hearers:

"How's the fishin'?" asked the stranger.

"Great," replies the angler. "Yesterday I caught the limit for myself and my twin sister, with a fly, too, an' it ain't fly time for a month."

"Perhaps you don't know me," said the stranger, throwing his coat open and displaying a big badge. "I'm the deputy game warden. Well, who are you?" asked the officer, taking out a little book.

"I'm the damndest liar in Pike" (or any other town or county preferred), replies the angler.

So popular is the preceding fish story that writers have used it in brightening up their income tax articles, merely changing the scene and people.

Another game warden story that always brings a chuckle is that of the boy and his string of fish. The game warden found only catfish, perch and suckers on the line, but a few feet further down the stream he discovered a large black bass wiggling on a string weighted down with a stone.

"What are you doing with the black bass?" asked the warden.

"Well, you see," answered the boy, "he's been takin' my bait all mornin', and so I just tied him up there until I got through fishing."

A Member of the Rocking Chair Brigade.

New York, Aug. 13.

An Acrobatic Goldfish.

Do you want pleasure in your home at a small expense? Then purchase goldfish and put them in a tank. There is no dirt and no noise and they afford amusement to all. They require fifteen minutes' attention daily.

Let me tell you about my goldfish that Mrs. Snyder purchased eleven years ago. In a department store she paid 10 cents for three of the common, ordinary, every day variety of goldfish. Mrs. Snyder brought them home in an oyster box. I put them in a pitcher until I purchased a glass tank 18 inches long, 12 inches high and 10 inches in width. Then I purchased a salt preparation, washed carefully several handfuls of sand and added several pebbles.

At a certain time every day Mrs. Snyder would feed the fish regularly. On the second day she would remove the pets with a small net made of mosquito netting, placing them in a bowl or other vessel. Replacing the aquarium with fresh water, she would put the fish gently back again.

We have fed the fish on fish food wafers and every five days have added a little fresh beef and have removed whatever particles of beef remained.

We had names for each of the three fish and recently we lost one called Billy. Skeptics will not believe what I am about to record, but it is true. Billy would take food from Mrs. Snyder's hands and she taught Billy to turn a somersault.

Goldfish are cheerful pets to have in the house and I suggest this means of pleasure to those who have not tried the experiment.

JOE SNYDER.

30 Carmine street, Aug. 13.

Pompano at Asbury Park.

In this morning's Rod and Gun column Paul Lamoreille writes that a pompano was caught at Ocean City, where it was never known to be found previously.

For his and other's benefit will say that during the second week in August of last year two pompano were caught off the pier of Asbury Park. Mr. Seegar, who has the tackle stand, had one of these two pompano mounted for the young man who caught it. I was a witness to this catch also.

W. B. SKELLEY.

628 East Twenty-second street, Brooklyn, Aug. 10.

Shark Meat Made New Men of Sailors.

The matter of eating dogfish and sharks has been under discussion of late. Capt. William H. Burns of Portland, Me., known as "Barnacle Bill," who has sailed the seas for a quarter of a century, is fond of shark meat. And why not?

"I recall a time," he remarked reminiscently the other day, "when a little shark about three foot long just about saved a crew of six of us from starving to death. We were twenty-three days out of Vera Cruz on the way home and had been blown off the Nova Scotia coast.

"We had started short of grub, and when we were three weeks out we could pull our belts into a pipestem.

"The afternoon of the twenty-third day the lookout hollered there was a shark on the starboard bow. Every man in the ship was after him in a minute. They had everything from a mackerel hook to a harpoon. Finally we hooked him.

"We hadn't any sooner got the little feller aboard than the cook grabbed him, cut him up in a tiffy and pretty soon the whole crew was sitting down to hot fried shark. The best meal they ever ate. There was just about enough to go around, but it made new men of us."

H. F. P.

New York, Aug. 13.

Fly vs. Plug Contest.

"Rayx" in THE SUN of July 22 writes: "I noticed that my friends the pluggers have been very conspicuous by their absence. I have fished four days and each day I have caught the full legal limit of bass, that is, fifteen bass of more than ten inches in length. All of these bass were taken on fly, my largest weighing four and one-fourth pounds, a small-mouth. I think this, for four successive days, within fifty miles of New York, is a pretty good record for the fly.

"Now if any plugger wants to try out his plug against the fly just let him name the time and the place and we will try to arrange a friendly contest between the plug and the fly."

I have been ill for some time. The Rod and Gun column has many times made me forget the pain and brought fond memories back. If you only knew how one appreciates the "great open" and fishing you could realize my eagerness to get back to earth again.

And so it was the other day that I picked up THE SUN and turned the pages to Rod and Gun. Ah, yes! To be sure, my old friend "Rayx" is back with us again. Although I feel like the morning after the night before, and have some of the fight taken out of me, I still contend I maintain enough stamina to encourage "Rayx's" challenge and hope in the near future to take him up. There is no doubt we would have a good time. I would like to say that while I'm not all plug "Rayx" wouldn't mind me taking a few bass on a Rainbow minnow, would you, old top?

ROYAL COACHMAN.

Washington Heights, Aug. 7.

Four Species at Asbury Park.

At the Asbury Park grounds on Saturday forty-four anglers in the Evelyn, Capt. Jake Martin, caught 980 sea bass and porgies, a few blackfish and fluke being included.

The high hook man was Joe Mace of 554 West 160th street, who had 60 sea bass. Max Salver of 1565 Fulton avenue, Bronx, had 45 sea bass and an 8 pound blackfish, which won first prize. David Wolf of 237 East Eighty-first street had 34 sea bass and 6 porgies.

Three anglers from West Orange caught 48 sea bass and porgies and several fluke. They were H. Hiller, Dave O'Connell and H. Grappel.

Two Newark fishermen, C. Bever of 523 South Sixteenth street and E. Hart of 270 Chadwick avenue, took 46 sea bass and porgies.

Capt. Martin fished the same grounds yesterday.

Cinders and Fishkill Catches.

Week end catches of weakfish by the guides of Canarsie who tie up at Fred Boegel's follow:

Friday evening's high tide—William Kelly, 77; Lef Davis, 29; Charles Johnson, 18; Joe Stulbaum, 30; Jake Knipe, 41; Henry Revinus, 52; Arthur Johnson, 10; "Happy" Lewis, 38; Louis Ansbach, 24; Charles Phillips, 32; Emil Gauner, 10; George Ansbach, 16; J. Schaeffer, 18, and Frank Lockart, 22 weakfish.

Saturday morning's high tide—Stulbaum, 21; Robert Johnson, 4; John Hitchler, 8; Davis, 28; Revinus, 32, and Kelly, 3.

On Friday evening the fish bit best on the first of the flood; on Saturday morning on the first of the ebb. The waters fished included the Cinders and Fishkill.